FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 FEBRUARY 1984

Lebanon

Military Situation — The battleship *New Jersey* bombarded Syrian and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) positions in the Lebanese mountains throughout 8 February, destroying at least 30 hostile targets, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. The bombardment came in response to shelling of Christian areas in and around East Beirut, the radio said. The commander of the Syrian-PSP artillery operations was killed in the shelling, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, but the Syrians are setting up a new operations room in Shtawrah that will coordinate shelling of U.S. warships. A military spokesman cited by Damascus radio denied that Syrian forces had suffered losses in the U.S. shelling, and the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio likewise denied that PSP artillery emplacements and personnel had been hit. However, the Syrian spokesman noted, the bombardment hit residential areas, killing or wounding "scores" of people.

Voice of the Mountain radio broadcast a statement by Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri demanding "for the last time" that all gunmen leave the streets of Beirut for the front lines to confront President Amin al-Jumayyil's forces. In a subsequent statement broadcast by the radio, the Amal and its allies announced that Internal Security Forces would shortly take responsibility for maintaining order and that it is "forbidden" to carry arms, seize private property, kidnap persons, or open offices for new parties or organizations in West Beirut.

While the Voice of the Mountain said all armed men have disappeared from the streets of West Beirut, Radio Free Lebanon spoke of "chaos and anarchy" in the western sector, particularly after the release of prisoners, and also reported that Amal and Palestinian gunmen broke into the Finance Ministry building. Meanwhile, PSP leader Walid Junblatt called on forces in West Beirut to fortify their positions, terming the withdrawal of the Marines a "maneuver" in preparation for a U.S.-Lebanese Government operation to recapture the western sector, Voice of the Mountain reported.

Army's Stand — Beirut radio reported a statement by the defense minister emphasizing that striking the Lebanese Army is an "act of suicide" and also broadcast an Army Command communique urging soldiers to remain at their posts and not become involved in the political conflict. Junblatt criticized this communique in remarks reported by Voice of the Mountain, describing it as "suspicious because it appeals to some suspect officers in West Beirut who may later act like a Trojan horse."

Political Developments — In reply to a message from President Reagan, President Hafiz al-Asad reaffirmed Syria's support for the Lebanese people's struggle for their Arabism, freedom, and independence, SANA reported. Radio Monte Carlo viewed the Syrian reply as a rejection of the President's "warning." Earlier, Damascus radio announced that Soviet First Deputy Premier Geydar Aliyev will arrive in Syria shortly for a "working visit." In another development in Damascus, PSP leader Junblatt contacted the U.S. ambassador to protest the "barbaric" shelling of the mountain area by U.S. warships, according to the radio.

The Italian defense minister announced in Rome that Italy will gradually withdraw its contingent in Beirut, although it will try to find a solution for the protection of the Palestinian refugee camps in the city, ANSA reported.

Israeli Position — Israel will "under no circumstances" take military action to save Al-Jumayyil's regime, according to Defense Ministry sources cited by IDF Radio. The withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon will allow Israel to reconsider the idea of redeploying the IDF in the south, possibly to a line close to the Az-Zahrani River, *THE JERUSALEM POST* said in a related report. This would take the IDF out of Sidon and enable it to cut the size of its units in Lebanon and concentrate its anti-terrorist resources more effectively, the paper added.

UAE

An organization calling itself the "Arab Revolutionary Brigades" claimed responsibility for the 8 February assassination of the UAE ambassador in Paris, AFP reported. A man speaking on behalf of the organization told the agency the envoy was killed because of the "expulsion of Palestinian and Arab nationals" from the UAE and because of the UAE's "links with American imperialism."

Iran

Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, in a press conference reported by IRNA, denied that the Iranian Government had any connection with the Paris assassination of the "butcher of Tehran,"Gholam 'Ali Oveysi, and his brother, although he added that Oveysi had received "due punishment" for his crimes.

In a separate incident, the Islamic Revolution Prosecutor's Office in Tehran issued a statement announcing the arrest of "monarchist elements" charged with giving information to the United States and France, IRNA reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, in an 8 February press conference reported by IRNA, reiterated his country's warning that if Iraqi forces bombard Iranian residential areas they will receive an "immediate and crushing response" from Iran. The foreign minister also said Iran will not take part in any "direct or indirect negotiations" with Iraq because it has not honored its obligations.

The Iranian War Information Headquarters dismissed as "utterly false" Iraqi claims of Iranian shelling of the Iraqi town of Mandali, IRNA reported. A headquarters spokesman described the claim as part of an Iraqi strategem for seeking an "off-hand justification" and "plausible excuses" for carrying out threats to bombard Iranian cities.

Meanwhile, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke at a ceremony marking the departure of 5,000 men for the war fronts, Tehran radio announced.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Jordan on 15 February, PLO spokesman Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said in remarks cited by Riyadh radio. The Amman paper *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* confirmed 'Arafat's scheduled arrival date. Meanwhile, 'Arafat and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih met to discuss the Palestinian situation and developments in the Arab and international arenas, San'a' radio reported. 'Arafat also briefed the YAR leader on the results of his recent visits, the radio added.

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Polish Commercial Delegation Arrives 9 Feb

LD090633 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Kabul, February 8, BAKHTAR — A commercial delegation from the People's Republic of Poland arrived in Kabul today.

During their stay in Kabul the delegation will hold discussions with the Afghan authorities to further promote trade relations between the two countries.

Helmand Province Forms Revolution Defense Groups

LD071949 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] More than 650 patriotic and aware people, including women, have been organized into revolution defense groups in Helmand Province and are fighting bravely alongside the security forces for the security of their province and the complete elimination of the remaining counterrevolutionaries. These revolutionary fighters, who include workers, employees of local government, and traders of the capital and districts of Helmand Province, are busy day and night maintaining peace and order in districts, villages, production and educational organizations, and are discharging their just and righteous duties against the enemies of the homeland and the revolution.

The commander of the revolution defense groups in Helmand Province, [name indistinct] Shadi Khan, said in an interview with the BAKHTAR correspondent in Lashkargah that our people now know the faces of the dirty rebels and they have individually and collectively risen against them in every town and village. In the past 9 months, we have seen on several occasions that even children, together the revolution defense groups, have punished bands, including their leaders, for their foul deeds.

Operations Continue Against Counterevolutionaries

Two Groups Surrender

LD062243 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Two counterrevolutionary groups, realizing the truth of the April Revolution and utilizing the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decree, joined the revolutionary state today along with their weapons. According to a spokesman of the security force, the first groups consists of 10 men, headed by Gol Hamid, belonging to the so-called Jami'at-e Eslami from [name indistinct] village, Shakar Dareh district. The second group also consists of 10 men, headed by Mohayoddin, belonging to the criminal Golboddin band from the Owrya Khel village, Qara Bagh district, Kabul Province, surrendered to the security forces and pledged that, by forming security posts in their villages, they will fight against the counterrevolutionaries to the end of their lives and courageously defend the gains of the revolution.

Successes Reported

LD071902 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] In continuation of the crushing and arresting of counterrevolutionary elements and destroying their satanic nests, successful operations were recently carried out by the vigilant security forces in village of (Nezamoddin-e Shahid) and Enjil district, Herat Province. A BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a security source in Herat Province, reports on the results of these operations:

A number of rebels who were disrupting the peaceful lives of the people of those villages at the orders of their imperialist masters, including three of their leaders — Khayerollah,son of Abdollah; Abdol Rahman, son of Abdol Wahed; and Sher Ahmad, son of Sahebdad — were killed and a number of them wounded. Four of their committees, 15 positions, 5 weapons and ammunition depots, and 4 foodstuff depots were destroyed. Large quantities of American, Egyptian, Pakistani, and Chinese weapons, including light and heavy weapons, antitank and personnel mines were seized.

According to another report, during recent operations in the (Tupkhana), (Kabulishah), Qalacheh, Shir Ahmad, and Farsi regions of Qandahar Province, a number of rebels belonging to criminal counterrevolutionary bands were killed. Some 12 weapons, 1,200 rounds of ammunition, and a number of hand grenades were seized from these criminals. More that 15 various weapons, 1 DSHK, and 1 mortar were destroyed.

During operations carried out in Kabul Province by the brave security forces of the country, a number of criminal rebels were killed, and one of these criminals with two heavy American machine guns was arrested.

The BAKHTAR correspondent in Jowzjan Province reports that an eight-man-strong group of rebels, recently realizing the rightness of the revolution and taking advantage of the Revolutionary Council's amnesty decree, surrendered to security forces in Sar-e Pol district, Jawzjan Province, bringing a quantity of weapons and ammunition. They pledged to defend the gains of the revolution and its new development stage in order to compensate for their past actions and to struggle for the elimination of counterrevolutionary elements who are disrupting the peaceful lives of our compatriots.

According to another report, a number of the toilers of Qeysar and Shirin Tagab districts, Fariab Province, who stood for some time in the ranks of the counterrevolution, recently realized the rightness of the April Revolution and joined the toiling people in that province.

At a meeting they vigorously condemned the actions of the enemies of the revolution and repented their past actions.

Rebels 'Crushed' in Qandahar

LD081619 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Our compatriots are being liberated in various villages and districts of the country as a result of the fatal blows inflicted on the rebels. According to a report from Qandahar, 38 rebels were crushed recently by our heroic and courageous security forces in the (Deh Khwaja) village and the suburbs of Qandahar city. The rebels belonged to the so-called Islamic criminal bands.

Some 36 assorted weapons made in the United States, Egypt, China, and Pakistan; 3 DSHK's, 1 mortar, 1 rocket launcher; and more than 3,700 rounds of assorted ammunition, 2 typewriters, and propaganda leaflets showing the treacherous links between the counterrevolutionary bands and imperialist countries were seized.

Clandestine Radio Reports on Military Operations

GF081808 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1717 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Our Muslim revolutionary brothers, in an operation carried out in Herat Province, attacked a (?patrol) unit of the Soviet occupation forces and the Karmal regime, killing seven.

In another operation, our Muslim revolutionaries, attacking the Soviet occupation forces and the forces of Karmal regime on the Herat-Islam Qal'a Highway, killed 25 while destroying 2 of their vehicles. In the course of the operation, six of the Soviet occupation forces and mercenaries of Karmal's regime were captured by our Muslim revolutionary brothers.

In Qonduz Province, our Muslim revolutionaries attacked a military convoy of the Soviet occupation forces and the forces of Karmal's regime and killed or wounded a large number of them.

Leave Order for Pakistanis Announced

BK081355 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Two employees of the Pakistan Airlines in New Delhi have been asked to leave India for indulging in undesirable activity. An official spokesman said today that the order was served on them yesterday and they have been given 5 days to leave. The Pakistan Embassy has been told about their activity.

It will be recalled that the Pakistan Government ordered two employees of the Indian Airlines based in Lahore to leave that country alleging that they were involved in the return to India of two domestic servants of the Indian diplomat in Islamabad.

Reportage on Punjab Strike Called by Akali Dal

BK081300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] In Punjab, the bundh [strike] called by the Akali Dal has by and large passed off peacefully. The home secretary, Mr A.S. Poori, and the inspector general of police, law, and order, Mr Bhinder, told newsmen this evening that no loss of life or any serious damage to property has been reported from anywhere. Attendance in government offices was normal in all the districts except Ropar, Jullundur, and Ludhiana where it was partial. Police intervened in Jullundur, Amritsar, Pathankot, and Patiala to avert clashes between two groups of people. In Jullundur, police had to use tear gas and fire in the air to disperse the clashing groups. Six persons received minor injuries. In Kapurthala, a police party was attacked by the agitators. An assistant subinspector [of police] was injured. In Sangrur, a bank manager, who refused to close the bank, was kidnapped. He was later recovered by the police.

Essential Services 'Unaffected'

BK081617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Barring a few minor incidents, the Punjab bundh [strike] today passed off peacefully. However, the Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, claimed complete success of the bundh.

Our correspondents report that the essential services, like water and power supply, remained unaffected. The attendance in government offices was normal in all the districts except in Rupar, Jullundur, and Ludhiana, where it was partial.

Three incidents of sabotage were reported from Ludhiana District. In Bhatinda District, the bundh passed off peacefully .

The Haryana Government diverted traffic from Delhi to Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh on the state highway bypassing Punjab areas.

Gandhi Initiative Welcomed

BK081653 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Various political parties and organizations have welcomed the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi's initiative to revive the tripartite talks to solve the Punjab tangle. The president of the Punjab Pradesh [state] Bharatiya Janata Party, Mr Baldev Prakash, welcoming the offer said his party has been persistently demanding this.

In a statement in New Delhi, the CPI general secretary, Mr Rajeshwara Rao, urged the Akali Dal president, Mr Longowal, to give a positive response to the proposed meeting. Mr Rao also supported the center's decision to suspend the train and bus services in Punjab today in view of the bundh [strike].

The president of the Akali Dal Master Tara Singh Group, Jathedar Rachhpal Singh, has welcomed the initiative. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he said the Akali Dal leaders should accept the offer to join the tripartite talks. He condemned the threat to burn Article 25 of the Constitution, which, he said, amounts to burning the entire Constitution. He said a commission should be set up go into the grievances of minorities, especially the Sikh community.

In a statement in Chandigarh, several Sikh intellectuals have termed the initiative as an indication of positive thinking. They called for efforts to solve the problem on merits without any preconditions. The intellectuals include Retired Major General Jaswant Singh (Bhullar); the former member of parliament, Mr Narender Singh (Bhar); and Dr Sohan Singh.

Journalists in Amritsar have decided to lift the boycott on news coverage of organizations operating from within the Golden Temple complex. This follows a personal appeal by the newspaper correspondent who was attacked outside the Golden Temple last week.

Mercy Petition of Kashmir Rebel Leader Rejected

BK090309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The president has rejected the mercy petition of Maqbool Butt, leader of the so-called Kashmir Liberation Front, who has been sentenced to death twice. The release of Butt was one of the demands made by the abductors of the Indian diplomat, Mr R.H. Mhatre, in Birmingham. He was first sentenced to death in 1968 in connection with the murder of a CID [Central Investigation Department] inspector in Jammu and Kashmir. The second sentence was passed on him 8 years later when he killed the manager of a bank in Baramulla.

Execution Set for 11 Feb

BK090845 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 9 (AFP) — Mohammed Maqbool Butt, a leader of the London-based Kashmir Liberation Front (KLF),

will be executed in New Delhi's maximum security prison on Saturday, a judge in Jammu and Kashmir State ordered today.

"Maqbool Butt will be hanged round the neck till he be dead at 0730 hours on February 11 in Tihar jail," Special Judge Justice Puvitar Singh Bhardwaj said in his order released in Jammu.

Mr Butt's release was sought by a Kashmiri group, which had claimed credit for the murder of an Indian diplomat in Britain. Ravindra Mhatre, a senior official of the Indian commission in Birmingham, had disappeared after boarding a bus in Birmingham on Friday and was found shot dead on a lonely country road 30 kilometres (20 miles) away late Sunday.

Mr Butt was twice sentenced to death by Indian courts for the murder of two government intelligence agents in Jammu and Kashmir state, the hijacking of an Indian airlines plane and a bank holdup, all between 1960 and 1971.

Indian intelligence sources believe the KLF may be partly linked with the Kashmir Liberation Army (KLA), which had claimed responsibility for the killing of the Indian diplomat.

The KLA, besides asking for the release of Mr Butt had also demanded the release of unnamed prisoners and a ransom of one million pounds sterling (1.4 million dollars).

The execution order came from Jammu as he was arrested and first tried in that state.

Indian President Giani Zail Singh formally rejected his mercy petition earlier this week.

Mr Butt was first sentenced to death in 1968 for the abduction and murder of a Criminal Investigation Department (CID) official. Indian press reports said that he had entered Kashmir State in 1966 "with a view to activating secessionist elements."

He was also convicted under the enemy agents ordinance, but escaped from Srinagar jail and returned to Pakistan.

The second death sentence was passed eight years later when he killed another person in July 1976.

Mr Butt's execution was fixed orginally for July 24, 1976 but he made a mercy petition to the federal president.

The Indian Supreme Court had also stayed his execution along with those convicts inthe death row on April 11, last year, when the constitutional validity of hanging as method of execution was challenged.

Last weekened's operation in Britain was not the first time that his release was demanded by terrorist organisation who claim the whole of Kashmir as either part of Kashmir or independent state. A demand for his release was also made by the hijackers of an Indian Airlines aircraft in 1976.

Farooq Abdullah Denies Link With KLF

BK081710 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has said the Jama'at-i-Islami activists in Kashmir Valley had to be arrested because they were challenging the accession of the state to the country. Answering a number of points raised during the zero hour in the state assembly, he said his loyalty to India should not be suspected. He refuted he allegation that he had any link with the so-called Kashmir Liberation Front.

Congress-I Leader Killed in Nagaland

BK090308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The governor of Nagaland, Mr Burneyn has expressed shock at the tragic death of Sardar Gurmukh Singh, a Congress-I leader. Sardar Gurmukh Singh was shot by an unknown gunman at Dimapur on Tuesday. He succumbed to his injuries yesterday. The chief minister of Nagaland, Mr Jamir, and his Cabinet colleagues have also condoled the death of Sardar Gurmukh Singh.

Iraqi Claim of Mandali Shelling 'Bluntly Dismissed'

LD081142 Tehran IRNA in English 0938 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran Feb. 7 IRNA — The war information headquarters today bluntly dismissed as "utterly false" claim by the Baghdad government of Iran's artillery attacks upon the Iraqi town of Mandali and several of its outlying villages.

The spokesman of Iran's war information headquarters said here today that the Iranian forces would never venture a pre-emptive attack upon the Iraqi towns and cities identified in Monday's warning by President Khamene'i. In a military communique numbered 1365, broadcast over the Baghdad radio today, Iraq accused Iran of shelling the town of Mandali and several other villages surrounding it.

The headquarters also described Baghdad's claim as part of a stratagem for disreputing the Islamic republic and manipulating public opinion in order to seek off-hand justification and plausible excuses for fulfilling its earlier threats of bombarding Iranian towns and cities.

It said the Islamic Republic would doubtless retaliate Baghdad's intended bombardments of Iran's towns and cities after a short respite.

The headquarters again warned civilian Iraqis living in the Iraqi cities of Mandali, Khaneqin and Basra of the likelihood of "a foolish act by Baghdad" and called on them to vacate their hometowns for protecting their own lives.

It said also that if the Iraqi regime should prevent migration of civilians from these cities it would be solely responsible for its outcome.

Reza'i: Forces Fully Prepared To Shell Iraqi Towns

LD091135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], in an interview at one of the western fronts this morning, discussed the readiness of the Al-Quds divisions and brigades to take part in the training practices of the Al-Quds Maneuvers. In connection with the recent threats of the Zionist regime of Iraq to launch missile attacks and bomb our cities, he said: If Saddam carries out his threats, according to the remarks of the president and the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, we will definitely shell Basra, Mandali, and Khanagin in the first instance and, if necessary, 'Armara, 'Ali al-Gharbi, Al-Kut, Badrah, Zurbatiyah, and Darband-i Khan. Also, if necessary, we will shell all Iraqi towns with the exception of the four holy cities of Karbala', Kathmain, Samarra, and Najaf. At the moment, our forces are fully prepared to shell those towns if the residential centers of our country are attacked by the Zionist regime of Iraq. This will definitely delivered heavy blows to the rotten regime of Saddam.

Velayati Says Iraq To Face Fierce, Firm Reaction

GF081944 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Brother 'ali Akbar Velayati held a press conference in Tehran today, during which he denounced the recent threats of the ruling regime in Iraq to bombard the populated areas in Islamic Iran. He said that the ruling regime in Iraq does not abide by any Islamic, human, or international laws.

He said: The ruling regime in Iraq — as the president and the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said — will face a fierce and firm reaction from the Muslim fighters if it carries out its threats to bombard the populated areas of Islamic Iran.

The foreign affairs minister pointed out the various kinds of support which the international arrogance is providing to the ruling regime in Iraq in its war against the Islamic Revolution. He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran will not enter in any direct or indirect negotiations with the ruling regime in Iraq, affirming that the collapse of Saddam's regime has become imminent and certain and that the collapse of this regime will not be in favor of the international arrogance.

About the protest letters which the Foreign Affairs Ministry sent to international organizations regarding the recent threats of the ruling regime in Iraq to bombard populated areas in Islamic Iran, the brother foreign affairs minister said in his press conference that the goal of this step is to enlighten world public opinion and the international organizations. He said: We asked the heads of the diplomatic missions in Tehran to tell their countries to hasten in evacuating their nationals from the border towns in Iraq.

Brother Velayati announced his support of the struggle which is being waged by the Lebanese Muslim revolutionaries against Western intervention forces in Lebanon, saying that the operations of the Lebanese Muslims against the Western intervention forces have forced the international arrogant powers, particularly the United States, to hasten to withdraw their forces from Lebanon. The foreign affairs minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran expressed the hope that the continued victories of the Muslim revolutionaries will result in liquidating the entity which has usurped Jerusalem and in liberating Palestine and Jerusalem.

IRNA Report

LD082126 Tehran IRNA in English 1957 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 8 IRNA — Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, commenting on the recent threats of the Iraqi ruler that his forces would attack civilian areas in Iranian cities, said that the Iraqi regime has showed that it did not believe in any Islamic, humanitarian and international principles.

Velayati who was speaking to foreign and domestic reporters, here today added that, therefore, no action of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime could be predicted. However, this time the situation

would be different because if the Iraqi forces bombarded residential areas of the Iranian cities, they would receive an immediate and crushing response from the Iranian forces.

Speaking further on the threats of the Iraqi regime, Dr. Velayati said that such actions only accelerated the regime's downfall.

As for the relations of Iraq and the United States, he said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has stated since the beginning of the Iraqi imposed war that the Iraqi regime launched the aggression with the U.S. backing. This fact has now become quite obvious to the world, he added.

Further on Iraq-U.S. ties, he said that the U.S. officials have stated frankly that under the present conditions fall of the Baghdad yokie [as received] would not be in their interest. These remarks, he added, proved that propping up the Iraqi regime was in the interests of the U.S..

The foreign affairs minister further told reporters that Iran would not take part in any direct or indirect negotiations with Iraq because Iraqi regime did not honour its obligations. He further said that constitutional law of the Islamic Republic of Iran laid the foundation for relations of Iran with other countries and such policies would not change in accordance with conditions of time. He outlined bases for the foreign policy as political independence, non-reliance on superpowers, and relations with non-belligerent countries and giving priority to establishing relations with the Islamic and Third World countries.

As for the letters sent to international organisations in connection with the recent Iraqi threats, he said that the idea was to inform the world public opinion. Otherwise, he stressed, Iran was well aware that it had to get its rights by itself and to this it would do (?anything) which it deemed necessary vis-a-vis the Iraqi aggression.

On the situation in Lebanon and the latest developments there, he told reporters that the people of Lebanon and its Muslims in particular had intensified their resistance [words indistinct] if the Lebanese people would continue until coming to power of a popular and an appropriate government in Lebanon.

Commenting on withdrawal of the American forces from Lebanon, he said that under the pressure of the Lebanese militants, the U.S. Marines were forced to retreat to American ships off the Lebanese coast. Other reasons for the evacuation of the American forces, he said, were the casualties sustained by them and also the pressure of the American people on their government.

As for the number of the Islamic Revolution's Guards in Lebanon, he said their number was [word indistinct] and was a symbolic gesture showing the solidarity of the people of Iran with those of Lebanon, Syria, and Palestine in their struggles against the intervening imperialist and Zionist forces. He further added that the presence of the multinational forces in Lebanon was illegal and, therefore, they had to withdraw. Dr Velayati also expressed the hope that the movement of the Lebanese forces would lead to intensification of Palestinian and other Muslims. [sentence as received]

On the trial of the members of the dissolved pro-Soviet Tudeh party and also Irano-Soviet relations, he said as far as we are concerned the issue of the Tudeh Party [word indistinct] separate from our relations with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is our neighbouring country and Iran was after good neighbourly relationship, friendly ties, respect for rights and sovereignty and non-interference in each other's affairs.

Commenting on the measure of the Senegalese Government to sever its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said that it has not given any legitimate reason for doing so. We think that the Sengalese Government made the decision on the pressure of foreign elements, and there has been [word indistinct] justifiable reason for breaking off the relations.

In connection with the assassination of one of the former shah's number one general, Gholam 'Ali Oveysi, known as the butcher of Tehran, Dr. Velayati made it clear that the Islamic Republic of Iran had no connection (?with) it. He added that Oveysi has received due punishment for his crimes.

(Islamic Jihad organisation has claimed responsibility for the expiration of General Oveysi in Paris Tuesday.)

Musavi Explains Stand on Iraqi Bombing Threats

LD081025 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi took part in a press conference with domestic and foreign correspondents in Ahvaz, replying to their questons on a variety of topics.

One correspondent asked the prime minister about the president's recent message and the [word indistinct] by the Majlis in connection with the evacuation of Iraqi border towns and its connection with a probable attack by Iran.

The prime minister pointed out: The stand adopted by the president, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, and the esteemed Majlis speaker is connected with the recent threats made by the Iraqi regime concerning bomb and missile attacks on 11 of our border towns, which could, of course, result in extensive human casualties, rather than its being connected with our final offensive against Iraq. In these circumstances, our nation's patience has already been exhausted. Consequently, it is connected with preempting any casualties and promoting our topical aspirations. So, these warnings were issued for the sake of our own and of the Iraqi people. There is no doubt that should Saddam be left to his own whims --- the Saddam we know --- then he would expand the extent of his crimes.

While visiting Abadan [words indistinct], the prime minister said that in the bombings of Abadan 1,200 civilians had been martyred. It is therefore natural for us to seek an end to all these [as heard] in the region. As a result, it was decided to give this proper and appropriate response to Saddam's attacks.

Another correspondent asked: Do you anticipate that the statement issued by the president of the Islamic Republic might moderate Saddam's stand in bombing Iranian populated areas?

The prime minister replied: As pointed out by the imam, Saddam was supposed to have launched his missile attacks yesterday. We came to Khuzestan to meet with the local people and to offer encouragement. Obviously, this threat did not materialize. Later they announced that the attack would take place at midnight. This missile attack did not materialize either.

The prime minister added: I know that Saddam had a difficult day today in assessing his own criminal acts; he was wondering whether or not to do it. However, we are concerned with not leaving unanswered any act which might take place by Saddam. Any act by him will meet with an immediate reaction.

Arabic Report

GF081448 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Brother Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi has talked about the threats by the Saddamist regime to attack our border cities.

In a press conference attended by local and foreign journalists in Ahvaz yesterday, he said: The Muslim fighters — as the president, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, and the Majlis speaker and the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council have said — will firmly retaliate in such a way that befits Saddam if he carries out his threats and resorts to bombarding 11 of Iran's Muslim cities with missiles and bombs.

Referring to the fact that the ruling regime in Iraq is undergoing political, military, economic, and media difficulties after 40 months of continuous shelling of Iran's Muslim cities, Brother Mir-Hoseyn Musavi explained that the Iraqi economy and even parts of the military and security apparatus of the Saddam regime is nowadays ensured by millions of foreigners who live in Iraqi cities including Basra. If Saddam loses his mind and executes his threats, then the Islamic Republic of Iran will undoubtedly execute its threat. This will be a blow to the regime ruling Iraq.

Indicating that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are today visiting the border regions to see for themselves the gravity of the crimes committed by Saddam, he said: Nowadays, there is no difference between officials and people. Islam does not accept any difference between Muslims.

In another part of the press conference, he referred to the Camp David accord, the two resolutions of the Fes summit, and the Islamic Conference Organization summit, all of which aid the implementation of U.S. plots in the Middle East and consecrate the existence of the usurping Zionist regime. He said: Through the escalation of the struggle of the Muslim Lebanese and the Palestinian revolutionaries and the other Muslims of the world and through promoting the cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran with the progressive and the revolutionary countries, all the plots of international arrogance and the reactionaries can be foiled.

On relations between Iran and Libya, the prime minister stated: Our relations with Libya, a friendly revolutionary country, has been reinforced during the war which the ruling regime in Iraq imposed on the Islamic Revolution. He added that the best possible relations exist between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Libya.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Forces Leaving for Front

LD081911 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpts] This morning, the 8th day of the 10 Days of Dawn, 5,000 combative brothers of the Corps and the mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Tehran Province left for the fronts of the war between truth and falsehood.

On this occasion, ceremonies were held in front of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Majlis deputies and a large group of the martyr-nurturing people of Tehran, the families of martyrs, and the war disabled participated. During these ceremonies, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, made a speech in which he referred to the Muslim youths' unprecedented enthusiasm over being present on the battlefronts. He said:

Most of the brothers whose shining faces are before us are going to the front for the umpteenth time today. Most of them have been wounded or injured during the Islamic jihad; most of them have carried the holy and purified bodies of their brothers and fellow fighters from the battlefields and have taken them behind the front lines.

At present, America is not as afraid of the Soviet Union's huge military power as it is of you, the Muslim youth. And no doubt, the Soviet Union at present is not as afraid of the Western bloc as it is of these Islamic forces. I do not say the Soviet Union is not afraid of the West; but this is a more serious fear. This is not a slogan; it is something which has been put into practice. You see what is happening in Lebanon! Today the world's news agencies reported that the White House and the officials of the U.S. Government ordered the American forces to flee from Lebanon and called it the transfer of the U.S. forces to the fleet. They sent them back to the sea. What does that mean? [Words indistinct] it is the best reason for the issue I have raised, that world arrogance is afraid of men.

What did the forces opposing America, England, Italy, Israel, France, and the Phalangists have in Lebanon? What do you think it was in Lebanon that forced the world's four powerful countries to withdraw their forces from Beirut in shame, disgrace, and abjectness and send them back to the sea? Why did they do that? Why did they stand this disgrace? There is no other reason but Lebanon's Muslim youths, and you have heard the news of their work on the headquarters of the Americans, the French, and the Israelis.

When such a thing happens in Lebanon, it is a confession of the defeat of military power by man. It is to confess the defeat of all material things by spiritual values. This incident is a confession of the powerful attack of the Islamic world against world arrogance and is the best evidence of the victory of religion, the

Koran, and Islam over blasphemy. This victory was gained thanks to the self-sacrifices of the people. And the self-sacrifice shown in Lebanon is a spark from your self-sacrifice.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: If you look at Lebanon today, you will realize that throughout Lebanon there are no forces as devoted as you, this group which has gathered in front of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and that this is a little drop in the sea of the basij [mobilization] forces and the Corps. Yet, that little number defeated the Americans, the Italians, the Israelis, the British, the French, and the Phalangists. This greatness belongs to all men. Therefore, if you see that world arrogance is so afraid of Islam and has brought so many charges against us and presents us as terrorists, ignorant and reactionary, and attacks Islam, the Koran, the mobilization, the Corps, the Islamic Revolution Committee and all the people in them, it is because the power of Islam is very great and no power can confront the armed forces which are devoted to Islam and the Koran; one cannot fight against self-sacrificing people with any power.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: God willing, you are victorious over the Saddam regime. We have defeated Iraq — a country with a population of 14 million and an 'Aflaqite Ba'th Party. We have defeated a country which is being fed by several reactionary countries. The French and the Soviets have given Iraq long-range missiles which can hit our cities from a distance of 300 km, and not many countries have this power.

When we said we would retaliate and we would hit three Iraqi cities, then emigration to the central cities of Iraq began. Our people have stayed in their own cities with the hope that the soldiers of the Lord of the era will save them. The Iraqi nation is not like our nation; it will not stay for the sake of the 'Aflaqites to become the target of threats.

Iraqi Mujahidin To Join Jersusalem Maneuvers

LD081140 Tehran IRNA in English 0953 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 7, IRNA — The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (Sairi) in a message to the Central Headquarters of the "Liberation of Quds" manuevers expressed gratitude to the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) for arranging the participation of Iraqi mujahideen in the maneuvers.

Sairi also asked the IRGC to organise Sairi's Basij forces for participation in the maneuvers.

Meanwhile Iraqi POWs in a camp in Tehran sent a message to President 'Ali Khamene'i announcing their support for the response given to the Iraqi regime's threats to bombard several Iranian cities.

IRNA Reports Arrest of 'Monarchist Elements'

LD082054 Tehran IRNA in English 2013 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 8 IRNA — The Tehran's Prosecutor's Office of the Islamic Revolution issued a statement here today announcing the arrest of some monarchist elements charged with delivering to the U.S. and France [word indistinct] information and intending to distribute pamphlets and (?pictures) of fugitive monarchists.

According to the statement these elements worked as hired hands who sent domestic information to America and France in return for money.

At the time of arrest the monarchists possessed (?sizeable) sums of money, pictures, pamphlets and some espionage gear that were confiscated.

The statement also said the Islamic Revolution's courts would investigate their cases soon and issue verdicts.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,629

LD081723 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,629 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Fighting continued during the past 24 hours in the form of artillery and heavy weapons fire exchange between our forces and the Iraqi Ba'thist aggressive forces along the entire front of the imposed war.

Thanks to the intense artillery and mortar fire of the warriors of Islam on all fronts, the fire of the Iraqi forces was silenced on the northwestern fronts, movement of their vehicles was disrupted, several of the enemy's trenches and foxholes were destroyed, and some 10 Iraqi Ba'thist troops were either killed or wounded. Two ammunition depots of the Iraqi forces were set ablaze and completely destroyed in the Panjwin sector. Most of the enemy movements and activities were crushed and halted on the western fronts, their logistic regions and supply routes were damaged, several vehicles of the Saddamist forces were either destroyed or damaged, and parts of their defensive positions were set ablaze and destroyed.

Our combatants observed one Iraqi patrol group in the Qasr-e Shirin region. Our combatants' fire forced the patrol to flee after suffering losses and casualties.

The combatants of Islam monitored engineering activities and movements of the enemy on the southern fronts where one of the enemy's 23-mm guns was destroyed and a number of its troops were annihilated.

In the course of fire exchanges on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the return fire of the warriors of Islam on positions and fortifications of the enemy destroyed over nine heavy and light weapons emplacements of the Saddamist forces and killed or wounded a number of their troops.

IRNA Reports on Western Front Clashes

LD082133 Tehran IRNA in English 2028 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Bakhtaran, Feb. 8, IRNA — Thirty [word indistinct] soldiers were killed by the Islamic combatants who carried out a successful patrol operation in one of the western [words indistinct] night.

Meanwhile, heavy weapons fire exchanges persisted in other western fronts over the past 24 hours. In these operations, an enemy soldier was killed, four others wounded, and two vehicles were smashed as enemy fortifications were barraged by the Iranian defenders.

Prime Minister Comments on Lebanese Situation

LD081204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The government council met this morning under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. The session began with reports about the battlefronts of good against evil and the region's political events. These were the subjects of a debate and study.

Prime Minister Musavi then reported on his trip on Monday and Tuesday to Ahvaz, Abadan, and Khorramshahr. Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi also gave a report on his recent visit to Bakhtaran, his inspection of the country's western fronts, and his meetings with Islamic combatants. The session then went on to discuss the report by the services commission on the regulations to set up physician offices. Debate on this issue was postponed until the coming session.

At the conclusion of the session, the prime minister said about the clashes in Lebanon: In Lebanon, the United States is dragging Muslims in blood and dust and, therefore, all the world's Muslims should pay attention to the role played by the U.S. criminals on the side of Israel against Muslims.

Musavi added: The war in Lebanon can only end with the evacuation of U.S. forces from Lebanon, the crushing of Israel, and the changing of Lebanon's Constitution. Lebanon is an Islamic country and its president should be elected from among the majority of the people constituted by the Muslims. The entire world should understand that no Muslim in Lebanon would be prepared to accept a Phalangist president allied to Israel.

Velayati, Banki, Zali Meet With Syrian Minister

LD081817 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The Syrian planning minister this afternoon met with Foreign Minister Velayati. During this meeting, the Syrian minister referred to the fraternal relations between the two countries and their common position with regard to imperialist conspiracies and reaction. He emphasized the need to expand economic, industrial, scientific, and technical relations, and added that the aim of his visit to Tehran is to set up a framework for the expansion of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries in various sectors and to exchange opinions about the planning and economic development of the two countries.

For his part, Velayati said: The fraternal and strategic relations between our two countries and the common threats made against the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria necessitate greater cooperation between the two countries in various fields. Therefore, in view of these considerations, the expansion of economic and technical cooperation is quite natural. He added: The expansion of commercial relations began sometime ago, and the strengthening and expansion of technical and scientific cooperation should also begin as soon as possible.

The Syrian planning minister this morning met and conferred with the minister of state in charge of the plan and budget organization, Banki. During this meeting, they discussed issues of mutual interest to the two countries. He also met today with Agriculture Minister Zali; they discussed agricultural cooperation.

Reportage on DPRK Deputy Premier's Visit

Meeting With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD082052 Tehran IRNA in English 1921 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 8, IRNA — The deputy prime minister of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Kong Chin-tae conveyed to Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the congratulatory message from President Kim Il-song, on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the victory of Islamic Revolution in a meeting here Tuesday morning.

The DPRK deputy premier also reiterated his country's support for Iran's stand in the Iraqi imposed war as well as anti-imperialist struggles of the Islamic Republic.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked Mr. Kong Chin-tae and his delegation and furthermore condemned aggressive U.S. policies in keeping the Korean peninsula divided. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said also that the U.S. is following the same adventurous policy in Korea as in the Middle East.

He noted too that as long as America seeks to enforce such policies the independent countries would face troubles and difficulties. He said that we have common interests and should act jointly in awakening nations [words indistinct] ridding ourselves of dependent rulers.

Also present in this meeting was Iran's deputy prime minister, Mr. Hendi and Islamic Republic ambassador to Pyongyang.

Inspection of Esfahan Mill

GF090730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] DPRK Deputy Prime Minister Kong Chin-tae, along with the Korean ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Korean delegation who are on a visit to Esfahan, yesterday

inspected the Esfahan steel complex and then attended a meeting with officials of the steel mill.

The meeting started with a report by a member of the board of directors of the steel mill on the mill's operations, output, and growth. He then said: After the victory of the revolution, this huge steel complex was put into operation thanks to the efforts of our own workers and it is now working in the best possible condition.

The DPRK deputy prime minister in reply thanked the official for his report and said that the workers of this complex, under the guidance of Imam Khomeyni, and with their slogans of self-sufficiency, have achieved great successes which make him very happy. He said: You have achieved big successes in yourpolitical, military, and economic campaign against the United States and similarly in your efforts toward the defense and victory of the Islamic Revolution. In the economic field, you will gain many more successes. Mr Kong and his delegation also paid a visit to the Esfahan (?polyelectrolyte) factory.

Velayati Receives Hungarian Trade Minister

LD312123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Hungarian minister of external trade this afternoon met with Foreign Minister Velayati. During this meeting, the two sides discussed the expansion of relations between the two countries in the commercial, economic, and technical fields and cooperation in the field of transportation. Announcing a visit to Iran by the Hungarian minister of foreign affairs in the near future, the Hungarian minister emphasized the mutual understanding and close cooperation between the two countries.

In reply, Mr Velayati, expressing pleasure at the visit to Iran of the Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, said: We are happy with the expansion of mutual relations after the victory of the Islamic Revolution and we hope that greater facilities will be made available for the expansion of these relations.

39 Expellees From Kuwait Arrive in Bushehr

LD042120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] In the wake of hostile acts by the Kuwaiti Government, yesterday 39 Iranians residing in that country were expelled by the Kuwaiti security agents. They arrived in Bushehr via the Persian Gulf.

More Arrive, Camp Set Up

GF080650 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] In a continuation of its inimical policy, the Kuwaiti Government expelled 21 more Iranians resident in that country during the past 2 days. They have arrived in Bushehr, Deylam, and Hendijan by sea on motor launches.

According to the Central News Unit, as soon as these people arrived, they were housed in camps specially set up for this purpose in Bushehr. It is recalled that most of these people were residing in Kuwait with valid resident permits and each one of them had lived in Kuwait for many years.

According to this report, Mr Zamanian, the Bushehr governor general, his political advisers, and the director of the political department of the governorate general have reviewed the situation in this camp.

Martyrs Families Call on Khomeyni 5 February

GF051834 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — Families of martyrs from Iraq, Lebanon and Bahrain accompanied by martyrs families from Esfahan, Semnan and Tehran called on Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning.

In this meeting, the imam's representative and head of the martyrs foundation Mahdi Karrubi referred to the recent Iraqi threat to attack Iran's residential areas, supporting the decisive stance of the Islamic Republic's Government to respond forcefully to the Iraqi threat by pounding all industrial centres of that country.

Karrubi then praised all martyrs families commending their sacrifices on behalf of the imam.

At the end of the meeting, Imam Khomeyni responded to the visitors enthusiasm.

Khomeyni Receives Air Force Officials 8 February

GF081950 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, today received representatives of the Air Force cadre. The commander of the Air Force briefed the imam on the situation of the Air Force. The leader of the Islamic Revolution delivered a speech which will be carried on later newscasts.

Montazeri Addresses Joint Chiefs of Staff

GF081210 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 21 Dec 83 P 1

[Text] Eminent Jurisprudent Ayatollah Montazeri said here yesterday that our army today is a popular one in the service of Islam and people, contrary to what it was in the past when the army was a plaything only in the hand of certain small mercenary groups.

"Today, people consider the army as their own and one that serves the objectives of Islamic revolution," he said. "This is, of course, a blessing gained under the aegis of the Islamic revolution of Iran," he added.

Ayatollah Montazeri said this in an address to the joint chiefs of staff, Brigadier General Zahirnezhad along with other officials of the joint staff who had called on Ayatollah Montazeri Monday.

"This unity now existing between people and the army is worrying to the staunch enemies of Islam including America who heads the lot," he said.

Ayatollah Montazeri said the enemies of the Islamic revolution could not bear to see it flourish and for this reason spare no effort to undermine the revolution by inflicting a fatal blow on the Islamic Army.

He said, "We cannot expect less from America and its lackeys in the region, because even if by the grace of God we defeat Saddam in the near future, they will not even then leave us alone and will try to destroy us in other ways."

"America has at its service many lackeys in the region, but the vigilant army enjoying popular support by relying on God, are prepared to face them," he said further.

"We must even expect and prepare ourselves for a day when America may commit a foolish act and deploy its Marines and parachutists against Iran to fight against Islam. On that day you must all be prepared to set out for the battlefronts to defend Islam and our Islamic territory. On that day I myself will accompany you to the fronts to serve you so that you can fight with all your might in defending Islam and righteousness, Ayatollah Montazeri said.

"You may rest assured that the final victory will be yours as you are treading on the same path pursued by Imam Hoseyn (AS) for the cause of Allah and that you have the devoted nation of Iran behind you," concluded Ayatollah Montazeri.

The report said chief of army tribunal, Mohammadi Reyshahri along with Friday imams of Khodabandeh, Maimaeh and Hashpar Tavalesh also called on Ayatollah Montazeri here Monday.

Free Voice of Iran on Oveysi Assassination

GF081858 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Tehran reported that according to secret information that he has been able to obtain, the recent meeting between Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, the leading mercenary of the Khomeyni regime, and Ayatollah Khomeyni concerned the danger of an uprising stemming from the Iranian Armed Forces. Khomeyni had asked that steps be taken to prevent any kind of coup d'etat. But since none of the resulting steps were completely satisfactory, the authorities concerned decided to stage a show to inflict a psychological blow on the Armed Forces. The assassination of General Oveysi, who had held the highest post in the Iranian army as well as being a leader of the military opposition to the Khomeyni regime, served the purpose.

According to the report by the Free Voice of Iran correspondent, the assassination of Oveysi was directly linked to the growing wave of opposition to the Khomeyni regime by the Iranian army. Evidence of this is the fact that for the past 5 years Oveysi traveled to France and the United States without any bodyguards and unarmed and there had been no attempts on his life. While in the case of Khomeyni, his guards have to identify every person who meets him for fear of an attack on him.

According to unconfirmed reports, which have reached the Free Voice of Iran, three terrorists of the Khomeyni regime had accompanied the brother and mother of Oveysi who traveled from Tehran to France on an Air France plane. One of the three terrorists was interrogated at Charles de Gaulle Airport. It is quite possible that this crime was committed by these three under the guidance of one of the Iranian Embassy staff, who most surely is a professional killer.

NVOI Examines 'Myth of Free Elections'

TA012008 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Myth of Free Elections"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Extensive activities are being carried out by the government aimed at concocting elections. While discussion is going on in the Islamic Majlis over the elections law, the present government is striving, by putting forward various articles, to pretend that legal procedures will be observed when it holds elections. As of now, a number of officials are planning to resign from government posts in order to occupy Majlis seats.

One of those who recently resigned from his post was Musavi-Tabrizi, prosecutor general of the revolution, who is probably one of the Islamic Republic's election candidates. The names of such wicked executioners are etched with the blood of the innocent children of the people of Azarbayjan, as well as of other parts of our country, on the walls of the ancient city of Tabriz, and also on those of Evin prison. The people of Tabriz have frequently heard the (?sound) of bullets which reverberated in the darkness of night in the tyranny-stricken atmosphere of that same city while the executions without trial of patriotic youths and men were taking place. These mass executions were carried out on the order of Musavi-Tabrizi who was the prosecutor general of Azarbayjan. It was not without reason that in recognition of these unrestricted crimes, the bloodsucking present government transferred him to Tehran and promoted him to the post of prosecutor general of the revolution. Now the government is allegedly expressing its appreciation for his services in connection with his resignation from the post of revolution's prosecutor general. Those who on the eve of the elections are resigning from their posts, like Musavi-Tabrizi, are probably planning to be elected as deputies to the Majlis. Can or does the Iranian nation want to vote for such individuals who have exceeded even the executioners of the shah's oppressive era?

Now the resignations of such individuals on the eve of the elections can be considered one of the government's deceitful maneuvers, the aim of which is apparently to appease public opinion. But the Iranian people are well aware of the fact that

the change of responsible officials cannot be proof of the change of the criminal nature of this bloodsucking regime. What is certain is that under the present conditions, in which terror and repression prevail everywhere, the myth of free elections about which the authorities are talking is no more than an illusion and a joke. The authorities, with thousands of ploys and tricks, and through a pretense of neutrality, want to demonstrate that there is no obstacle whatsoever to the people's participation in these elections. In reality, as long as individuals favored by the government have the right and potential of becoming candidates, why should it be necessary to create obstacles for the people to elect these same individuals? On the contrary, the government wants to show with utmost impudence that individuals favored by it are popular among the people, and that it is the people who are allegedly voting for them. The government wants to pretend that there is no imposition whatsoever. Of course, the justification of such a claim amid conditions in which all revolutionary freedom-seekers and patriots have been deprived of the possibility of any free political and social activity is not possible. The authorities' claim regarding the people's support for candidates favored by the government has no result except the disclosure of the candidates.

What can the people expect from a treacherous government whose motto is the suppression of freedom and true revolutionary forces, and which does not refrain from committing any crime toward this end? The people are well aware that the government's objective in engaging in so much hypocrisy and deceit with respect to concocting the next elections is to prolong the disgraceful and entirely treacherous life of the present reactionary leaders — leaders who during the last 5 years since the revolution's victory have not taken a single step toward obtaining the rights of our million-strong masses, who have led the country's economy into bankruptcy, who have made defense of the interests of major capitalists and landlords the focus of their antinational activities, and who have turned our homeland into a prison for patriots and the true defenders of the revolution. Such a government is condemned by the nation.

On the eve of the elections, the people emphatically demand that all patriots and individuals loyal to the revolution be released from prison as soon as possible and that progressive and revolutionary organizations enjoy the possibility of political andsocial activity. The people firmly demand the fulfillment of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the maintenance of democratic freedoms. Only in such a case can one speak of genuine elections based on the will of the people.

Nabavi on Industries, Cooperation With USSR, FRG

LD062136 Tehran IRNA in English 2013 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 6, IRNA — Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi said here today that during the first nine months of the current Iranian year (March 21 -December 21, 1983) interim permits were issued for establishing 1,175 factories and enterprises, which involve an investment of about rials 37 (dlrs 420 m). [as received]

He said Iran's relations with the Soviet Union in the area of heavy industries are minimal at the time being and that chances of any future increase in cooperations between the two countries in this area are remote.

Nabavi added that Iran's steel mill in Esfahan was originally designed and engineered by the Soviets but that the Islamic Republic is now determined to eliminate insofar as possible her dependence upon Soviet experts for its operations. He said the Islamic Republic was determined to proceed with the production of certain assembly industries such as buses, minibuses, trucks, pipes, and certain types of sheet iron, for which planning was made last year.

He also said for the time being the Federal Republic of Germany is Iran's principal partner in heavy industries though Iran's purchases of consumer items from the FRG has significantly dwindled since the culmination of the Islamic Revolution.

In order for the Third World countries to rid themselves from the domination of the superpowers, he said they can either close their ports to imported products and endeavour to work towards self-sufficiency by starting from scratch or can choose to march towards the same objective gradually.

The heavy industries minister said that before the Islamic Revolution Iran's economy was largely dependent upon the big powers of the world and that for the time being the Islamic Republic cannot totally stop its imports by hoping to produce sufficiently enough for responding to internal needs.

He said rather than do so, an effort must be made to change consumption patterns in a manner conducive to the growth of home industries.